



STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

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August 9, 1985

TO: The Board of Oil, Gas and Mining
THRU: Lowell P. Braxton, Administrator *L.P.B.*
FROM: Susan C. Linner, *SC* Reclamation Biologist/Permit Supervisor
RE: Executive Summary, Western Clay Company, Modification to
Redmond Bentonite Pit permit, ACT/041/012,
Sevier County, Utah

Attached for your information is an Executive Summary for Western Clay Company's Redmond Bentonite Pit. Public notice has been given and the 30-day public comment period will end September 1, 1985.

The Division recommends that you concur with the \$8,300 bond amount, to be held by Division of State Lands and Forestry.

jvb
0060R-33

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Mine Name: <u>Redmond Bentonite Pit</u>	I. D. No.: <u>ACT/041/012</u>
Operator: <u>Western Clay Company</u>	County: <u>Sevier</u>
<u>P. O. Box 1067</u>	New/Existing: <u>Modification to</u>
<u>Aurora, Utah 84620</u>	<u>Existing mine plan</u>
	Mineral Ownership: <u>State of Utah</u>
Telephone: <u>801-529-3286</u>	Surface Ownership: <u>State of Utah</u>
Contact Person: <u>Mr. Thomas Chivers</u>	Lease No.(s): <u>ML-1937(State)</u>
Life of Mine: <u>25Years</u>	Permit Term: <u>5 years</u>
Legal Description: <u>Section 2, Township 21 S. Range 1 West</u>	

Mineral(s) to be Mined: Bentonite

Mining Methods: Open Pit

Acres to be Disturbed: 8.5 Acres

Present Land Use: Mining, Grazing

Postmining Land Use: Grazing

Variances from Reclamation Standards (Rule M-10) Granted: None Requested

Soils and Geology:

Soil Description: Sandy clay loam - clay, these are badland soils derived from alluvial fans and low lake terrace, alkaline, poorly drained

pH: Colorado Plateau Province Ave. 8.1-9.1

Special Handling Problems: Extremely high sodium content

Geology Description: Bentonite is found in volcanics near Redmond. High Plateaus dissected by main drainages. Local folding causing steep dipping in stratified formations and giving rise to hogbacks.

Hydrology:

Ground Water Description: N/A

Surface Water Description: Runoff from the area resulting from the 8 inches of annual precipitation could enter the Piute Canal and eventually the Sevier River. All drainage from the disturbed area is contained locally in pits and ponds where it evaporates.

Water Monitoring Plan: N/A

Ecology:

Vegetation Type(s); Dominant Species: Salt Desert Shrub, Shadsacle, Snakeweed, Sand dropseed, Indian Ricegrass
Percent Surrounding Vegetative Cover: 15%
Wildlife Concerns: None. Area is considered to have been overgrazed.
Surface Facilities: Open pit and ponds. All raw product is hauled to Aurora for processing.
Mining and Reclamation Plan Summary: Test plots are in place to determine the most feasible techniques. Fencing has been/will be done to mitigate safety hazard. See attached.

Surety:

Amount: \$8,300
Form: _____
Renewable Term: 5years (1990 dollars)

OPERATION AND RECLAMATION PLAN

During Operations:

1. The bentonite clay deposit being mined occurs on the surface and thus does not require explosives to mine. It sometimes requires ripping. The clay is mined with a front-end loader and loaded into a truck for transport to a processing plant in Aurora, Utah
2. There will be no structures on site.
3. Any topsoil or overburden present will be removed for reclamation purposes.
4. Runoff from the minesite will be contained in two catch basins. Any water collecting in the pit will be pumped so as to flow into the catch basins.

Following operations:

1. All trash and debris will be cleaned up.
2. Slopes will be regraded to a stable configuration.
3. Soil material will be reapplied, harrowed and drill seeded with a mixture adapted to the area.
4. Test plots have been implemented to help determine the best methods for successful reclamation.